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**BOMB-THROWER
KILLS CASHIER****Unknown Man Asks for
Loan and Explodes
Internal Machine****PRESIDENT HAS
MARVELOUS ESCAPE****Interior of Room Wrecked and
Noise Drives Crowds From
Great Office Building.
Porter Has Both
Eyes Blown
Out.**

PHILADELPHIA, Pa., January 5.—Demanding a loan of \$5,000, and failing to get it, a man who has not yet been identified, dropped a bomb in the Fourth Street National Bank to-day, blowing a hole in the building, instantly killing the cashier, W. Z. A. Lear, and injuring six others, one of whom may die. The only clue to the identity of the bomb-thrower was a bunch of keys found in a portion of the clothing, attached to which was a plate inscribed "R. Steele, Garner, Iowa."

The Fourth Street National Bank is the largest financial institution in the city, and occupies the greater portion of the first floor of the Bullitt Building on Fourth Street, between Chestnut and Walnut Streets, in the heart of the financial district. The explosion was terrific, and it caused tremendous excitement in the crowded building and the street. The explosion occurred a few minutes before 12 o'clock, at a time when the bank is usually well filled with persons in a hurry to transact business before the bank closes. No one saw the unknown man enter the bank except E. J. Shanbarger, the vice-president, who was passing out of the building on his way to luncheon. He noticed the man was poorly dressed, looked like a Irishman, and carried a small parcel. The man walked straight back to the rear of the bank and asked a clerk to direct him to the office of the president, Richard H. Rushton. What took place in his office is best told by the president himself.

President's Story.
"I was very busy when the man entered my office, and I asked him to be seated for a moment. He was very nervous, dressed, had patches on his shoes, and his entire appearance made me very curious. While he was waiting for me to finish the business I had in hand at the moment, I happened to notice that he looked at me very curiously. I asked him his business, and he gave his name as G. E. Williams, and said he wanted a loan of \$5,000. He did not look like a man who could make a loan of that amount, and I asked him for collateral. He said something about an insurance policy, and that it would mature in from ten to five years. I was then convinced the man was a crank, and decided to dismiss him at once, not for a moment thinking there was any harm in him. I told him he would have to see the cashier, and directed him out into the banking department. The same moment called my colored messenger, William Crump, to see that the man was quickly taken out of the building. As I turned to continue my work at the desk, there was a terrific explosion, and I thought the building was coming down. The man had not time to reach the cashier, the explosion came so soon."

Details as to what actually happened when the man left the office of President Rushton differ, as no one can be found who saw the man drop the bomb. The door to the office of Cashier McLearn is only a few feet from that of President Rushton, and the man must have dropped the deadly missile between the two rooms. Cashier McLearn was sitting at his desk at the time and his body was badly mangled. The bomb-thrower's body was torn to pieces.

Wrecked Bank.
At the time the explosion occurred all the vaults were open, books were piled on desks and papers of all sorts of value were lying on desks preparatory to being put away for the day.
The explosion devastated the interior of the banking room. Glass and wooden partitions were wrecked and leveled to the ground as though a cyclone had swept through the place. Desks were ruined and iron bars were twisted. In fact, there was hardly an object left intact in the room. Of all the persons in the room at least six, all of them clerks, were hurt, two of them probably fatally. Three of the injured were sent to the hospital.

The explosion threw everyone in the banking room to the floor, and for a moment they were dazed. Many of them not knowing what had happened and fearing that the building, which is an eight-story structure, was falling, made a rush for the door. Mr. Rushton among them. The roar of the explosion brought the tenants on all floors to their feet, and a general rush was made for the elevators and the stairways. As the excited people came out there was a rush from the street to rescue those who it was thought had been caught in the explosion. In the meantime, an alarm of fire was sent in, and firemen were quickly on the ground. There being no fire in the place, the firemen and policemen ordered everybody out, and a strong guard was thrown about the building.

Marvelous Escape.
After President Rushton had recovered himself he told what happened, and a search for the bomb-thrower was made. At the moment it was supposed he had not been killed, but in taking out of the place, the cashier McLearn and looking for other clues, portions of a body were found than plainly indicated that the man had been blown to pieces.

The escape of President Rushton was almost miraculous, for the damage is greatest in his office.
Not only is the entire interior of the bank wrecked, but the large windows looking out on a small side street were blown out. The explosion scattered all the books and papers of the institution that were not within the vaults at the time. Some of them were blown out of the windows and fell to the ground, where they were found. As soon as the excitement of the explosion had subsided, policemen and unharmed clerks were sent to work searching the wreckage for all

(Continued on Sixth Page.)

**THIRD CLASS MEN
UNDER ARREST****Disobey Orders, Giving
Pyrotechnic Display
From Building.****FAIL TO RESPOND
TO LONG ROLL****This of Itself Constitutes Re-
bellion—Nearly One Hundred
Cadets Involved—Class
Once Dismissed for
a Similar Of-
fense.**

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
LEXINGTON, Va., January 5.—The third class at the Virginia Military Institute is under arrest, because of having celebrated by a beautiful pyrotechnic display from the roof of the academic building. Although such conduct is violation of the regulations, the cadets for an hour treated Lexington to a brilliant display of fireworks. Struck off through the main sky and lighted up the frowning barracks, and roman candles, cannon crackers and other fireworks added to the uproar. The boys looked like demons, silhouetted against the fiery background.
The third class fell out of ranks at supper roll, and while their companions were at supper the culprits ascended to the roof of the Smith Memorial Hall, from which vantage they put off nearly a hundred dollars' worth of fireworks, which they had surreptitiously smuggled into barracks. It is said that eighty-five men were in the escape—the third class, with the exception of five. Colonel Mills, the commandant, and other officers, were unwilling spectators to the escapade, but the jollification went on, notwithstanding orders for the boys to desist. The long roll was sounded, and even to this the cadets failed to respond, of itself constituting rebellion.

For a time after the pyrotechnics were over, the culprits remained on the building. When they came down every man was put under arrest, and they are now in their rooms. It will be recalled that the first class celebrated in a similar manner on New Year's of 1899, and for the offense the entire class was dismissed. The class of '96 was dismissed in January by General Shipp, but upon the agreement of the class to apologize, the board reinstated them at its meeting in February following. General Shipp is not likely to take any action until Monday.

Richmonders There.
The report of the arrest yesterday of nearly the whole of the third class at the Virginia Military Institute for insubordination created intense interest in this city last night wherever the news was known. Several prominent Richmond boys are members of this class, among them being Robert D. Davis, son of Mr. Charles E. Davis, general manager of the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad and president of the Central Virginia Coal and Coke Company; and the late Ike Jones, a son of Mr. John G. Miller, cashier of the First National Bank; Orrin R. White, Herbert J. Jacob, and Alfred S. Crenshaw.

**TO CLEAN OUT THE
DISMISSED SOLDIERS****Hereafter Men Dishonorably Dis-
charged in Philippines Will
Be Sent Home.**

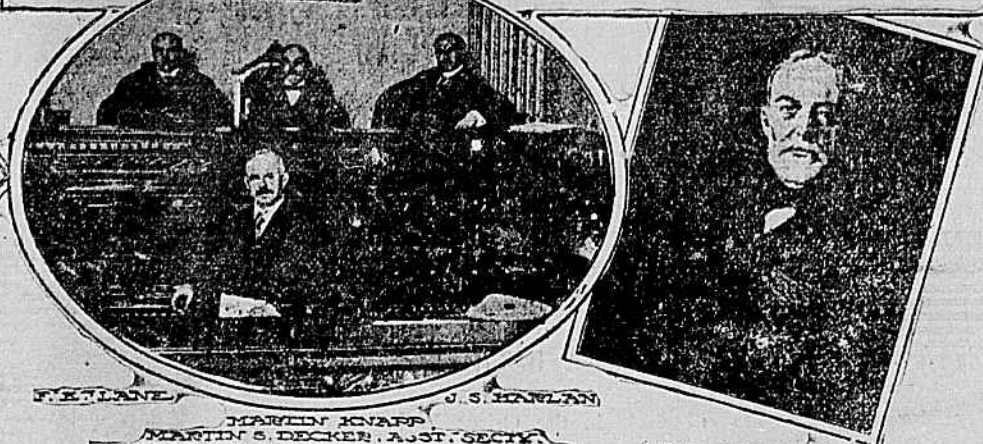
WASHINGTON, January 5.—The authorities in the Philippines are determined to rid the islands of all undesirable characters, and to this end they have decided to account for all dishonorably-discharged soldiers. It is stated that, after their discharge, the men have been accustomed to hang around the barracks and their way to that class of the population which is neither a credit nor a profit to the islands.
The military courts that hereafter sentence soldiers to dishonorable discharge will also impose a term of imprisonment, and during this time the offender will be transported to the United States, and will become impossible for a dishonorably-discharged soldier to be at liberty on the islands, and it will rid the Philippine community of their undesirable presence.

**BRITISH CONTRACT
BREAD AND MEAT****Vast Supplies Already Ordered
for King Edward's Sailor Lads
at the Exposition.**

NORFOLK, Va., January 5.—Contracts have been made in this city for the furnishing of food supplies to the British fleet that will come to the Jamestown Exposition. H. B. Hunt, a representative of the British Admiralty, executed the contracts, which provide for the supplying of eight battleships, and the agent says that it is possible that other British vessels will also be here. About 10,000 pounds of fresh beef, 15,000 pounds of bread and great quantities of vegetables will be furnished daily. The fleet will be here for eight weeks.

**MINISTERS TO PREACH
ON JAMESTOWN FAIR**

NORFOLK, Va., January 5.—The ministers of Norfolk have been asked to preach a special sermon on January 20 on the preparation for the Jamestown Exposition. The following subject for the proposed discussion being named in the request: "Make Our House Ready for Our Invited Guests."
The request goes out from the Citizens' Commission, through Dr. C. A. Saunders, chairman of the sanitary committee thereof.

**SCENE IN COMMISSIONERS' COURT-ROOM
DURING THE RAILWAY MERGER HEARING****PRESIDENT WILL
VETO THE BILL****Says He Would Decline if Con-
gress Should Direct Him to
Reinstate Negro Troops.****NO POWER TO LIMIT HIM****Senator Martin Holds Conference
With President, But Declines
to State Object of Visit.**

(From Our Regular Correspondent.)
WASHINGTON, D. C., January 5.—Senator Martin was with the President for a short time to-day. He declined to state the object of his visit.
President Roosevelt in the course of a conversation to-day, reiterated with added emphasis his declaration two weeks ago that he would not sign a bill directing him to reinstate the discharged negro soldiers of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, he intended to veto the bill, and should it be passed over his veto, he would disregard the statute.
He declared that he had studied the subject carefully; was convinced he had the constitutional power to discharge the soldiers, and this being the case, Congress was without power to limit his authority in the matter.
It was a declaration to the (foregoing effect that caused Senator Foraker to apply the word "silly" to the President.

**NEW WARSHIPS
A DISAPPOINTMENT****Government-Built Ship Unable
to Come Up to Speed
Requirements.**

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
NORFOLK, Va., January 5.—The battleship Connecticut, which left the New York navy-yard, where she was built, on December 15th, has been put through a speed test, and is found capable of steaming "about" seventeen knots an hour. Wireless messages from the vessel were received here to-night, when the vessel arrived in Chesapeake Bay from Newport. The test was made coming down the coast.
The performance of the vessel will be a keen disappointment to those who had advocated the construction of naval vessels in government yards. The ship was designed to make eighteen knots an hour. The battleship Louisiana, built after similar plans at the yards of the Newport News Shipbuilding and Dry Dock Company, and in competition with the Connecticut, developed a speed considerably in excess of eighteen knots. In naval circles at this station dissatisfaction is expressed with the performance of the ship. The Connecticut is at anchor in Lynnhaven Bay to-night. She will come up to Sewell's Point to-morrow, and will sail Monday. Engines and boilers of the ship are said to have worked splendidly.

**CENTRAL AMERICA
SAYS IT WANTS PEACE**

SAN SALVADOR, REPUBLIC OF SALVADOR, January 5.—Hondurans residing in Salvador and Salvadorians residing in Honduras, which was suppressed by Nicaragua and Salvador. The Central American republics are anxious to maintain peace by all means. President Escalon, of Salvador, made an important declaration to this effect to-day.
Ex-President Policarpo Bonilla, of Honduras, who was compromised in the revolution, has been imprisoned.

**MURDER AND ROB
TAZEWELL CLERK****Prominent Southwest Man Found Lying in Plum Creek—
Telltale Gash in Right Side of Neck and
Money and Watch Gone.**

TAZEWELL, Va., January 5.—T. E. George, clerk of the court of Tazewell for twenty years or more, was found dead in Plum Creek about 11 o'clock this morning by a colored man who happened to be passing. A gash about three inches by one inch and a half was found on the right side of his neck. A gold watch and forty dollars in cash, which he had in his vest pocket, and his gloves and silk muffler were missing. The cause of his death is as much a mystery to-night as when his body was found this morning. Bloodhounds were put on the track this afternoon, but, as said, with no success.
Mr. George left Tazewell about 6 o'clock yesterday afternoon on a young horse, and when last seen alive was at a point about one-half mile west of town. It has been the habit of Mr. George to stay in town several nights out of the week, and his family did not miss him last night until his horse was seen grazing in the pasture near his home, with saddle and bridle on. Mr. Oscar George, the oldest son, at once started to town in search of his father, and met a colored man who had seen the body of a man in Plum Creek, and upon investigation the young man found the body of his father in Plum Creek, where it had been for ten or fifteen hours.

**MUCH EXCITEMENT
AT RUEGER'S HOTEL****Alarm of Fire Called Out Large
Number of People—Little
Damage Done.**

Great excitement was caused yesterday evening at about 7:30 o'clock by an alarm of fire turned in from Rueger's Hotel, at Ninth and Bank Streets. A great flare of flame was seen to shoot up from one of the chimney flues, and at once everybody thought the whole place was on fire. People poured from every direction, and from Broad to Main all the way down Ninth Street people were massed. Companies 4 and 5 responded, and Trucks 1 and 2; but the danger had passed when they arrived.
The fire started in the hood in the cook-room, used as an escape for the heat. The hood has an outlet to the roof through a flue. A quantity of grease is collected in the hood and flue, and yesterday evening it became heated to such a point that combustion started, and by means of the fire extinguisher. There was no damage, but for a time the excitement was intense.

**HEARST VERSUS
MCCLELLAN****The Tammany Tiger Is a Lash-
ing of His
Tail.**

ALBANY, N. Y., January 5.—Justice Fitts, to-day, on motion of counsel representing Mayor McClellan, of New York City, issued an order forbidding Attorney-General Jackson to hear the reargument on William Randolph Hearst's application for leave to begin a quo warranto proceeding against Mayor McClellan pending a hearing before Justice Fitts on January 12th. This will prevent the argument before the Attorney-General, which had been set for next Monday. The writ was asked for on the ground that a similar application for leave to test Mayor McClellan's title to the office of Mayor of New York had been acted upon by former Attorney-General Mayer, and that the present Attorney-General had no right to open the proceedings.

Richmond Vessel Safe.

NORFOLK, Va., January 5.—The schooner George W. Anderson, of Richmond, reported yesterday, in days overdue at Mataponi River, for which point she sailed from New York last Sunday week, has been located and is all right. The vessel put into Delaware Breakwater for shelter after a severe contest with a gale.

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**VATICAN WILL
FIGHT TO END****Rejects All Overtures Offered by
the French Govern-
ment.****WILL FIGHT AT THE POLLS****Cardinal Richard Has Issued an
Appeal Which Will Be Read
in All Churches.**

PARIS, January 5.—Developments in the church and state situation continue to indicate that the Vatican authorities feel constrained to vindicate their course, by which church property in France to the value of \$120,000,000 was forfeited, by the rejection of everything offered by the government, and will even go to the extent of ordering the clergy to leave the churches in the hope of driving the French Catholics to demand redress at the ballot-box.

Bishop Lacroix, of Tarentaise, which is situated in a poor mountainous region of France, has received orders from the Vatican necessitating the dissolution of an association which he had formed with the object of retaining the church property in order to support the stricken clergy of his diocese.

Many bishops are issuing appeals to the faithful for funds, painting the spoliation of the church in the blackest colors.
Cardinal Richard's appeal, which will be read in the churches of Paris to-morrow, will say in part:
"The spoliation of the church in France will soon be complete. The government has repudiated its sacred obligation by suppressing the public worship budget. The small recompense which is accorded the clergy for the property seized during the revolution. The bishops and priests have been driven from their homes, and this was not enough, the church has been stripped of all the property received through the liberality of the faithful during the past century.
"The property of the wardens, pious endowments, seminaries, rectories, and even the fund of the aged and infirm clergy is to-day sequestered, and to-morrow will be confiscated.
"We protest against this in the name of the church, and of its elementary principles of justice."

**E. H. HARRIMAN
SERIOUSLY ILL****Operation Performed Was Not
Successful—Friends
Alarmed.**

NEW YORK, January 5.—2:30 A. M.—The Times to-day will say:
"It became known last night that the condition of E. H. Harriman had changed for the worse within the last day or so. His friends are now seriously alarmed about him."
The operation which Mr. Harriman underwent about a week ago, and which was expected to give him relief, has proved not altogether successful, and his condition is as bad as at any time previously.
Mr. Harriman was expected to appear before the Interstate Commerce Commission Friday or Saturday, but at the opening of the hearing counsel for the Union Pacific Railroad declared he would be unable to testify at this time.
Late reports are that Mr. Harriman's condition is more serious than has generally been thought.
Mr. Harriman is at his town-house, No. 11 East Sixty-second Street.

**TRAIN ROBBER
IS CAPTURED****S. A. L. Bandit Arrested
in Huntington, W. Va.,
and Confesses.****POWLEY HIS PAL
IN THE HOLD-UP****Gave Up Diamond Ring and Told
Where the Money Was
Secreted—Says That He
and Powley Walked
From Lacrosse
to Norfolk.**

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
HUNTINGTON, W. VA., January 5.—Percy Martin, of Atlanta, Ga., was arrested here to-night by Chief of Police Dawson, of this city, charged with being one of the bandits who held up a Seaboard Air Line train eighty miles south of Richmond, New Year's Eve.

Martin an hour after his arrest confessed his guilt and delivered to the officer a \$500 diamond ring, which had been taken from one of the passengers, and told where most of the money can be found.

Martin says that he and his pal, now in jail in Virginia, planned the robbery while in Washington, D. C.

After committing the robbery and shooting the conductor they stopped the train, and after getting off walked all the way to Norfolk, Va., through thickets and woodlands, a part of the way.

Martin came here about three years ago from Atlanta, and began running on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway as a newsboy, but he is married, and his wife is now en route to St. Louis.

Martin will be held here awaiting the arrival of the Virginia officials. There was a reward of \$500 for the capture of the train bandits.

**WHAT DID POWLEY
DO WITH HIS SHARE?****Baldwin Detectives Apparently
Correct in Belief That They
Had One of Bandits.**

From the foregoing telegram it would seem now that the Baldwin detectives, C. D. Duke and E. L. Norton, who captured Charles Powley, of the many aliases, under a tree near Aca Station, on the Richmond, Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad, last Wednesday evening, were correct in their belief that they had gotten one of the men who held up a Seaboard Air Line Pullman on the night of the preceding Sunday.

With later developments in the case much doubt was cast on the suspicion that Powley was in any way connected with the hold-up, as numerous witnesses in Norfolk were said to state that they could prove Powley to have been in that city on the night of the robbery, the doubt being greatly augmented by the fact that little of any value was found in Powley's possession at the time of the arrest and because he was found so near the scene of the hold-up three days after its occurrence.

Now, however, this doubt would seem to be thrown to the winds, and Martin's statement would indicate that the Baldwin people are probably correct in believing that they have one of the men implicated. The one question now is, what did Powley do with his share of the booty? If he really was one of the robbers? When found, he had hardly enough with which to buy himself a meal; certainly not enough to purchase a meal and lodging.

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**POWLEY SAID TO
BE LIKE EARLE****Some Think He Resembles Man
Wanted in Martinsville for
Fleeing Fair Attendants.**

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
DANVILLE, Va., January 5.—Charles Powley, alias John C. Andrews, etc., now in the Boydton jail on the charge of robbing the passengers on a Seaboard Air Line train, is thought by some to be the same person as Charles Earle, who several months ago together with a number of pals reaped a rich harvest by fleeing the unapproachable at the Martinsville fair. Earle was put in jail here for robbing a passenger on the train returning from the fair, of his overcoat, but was subsequently released as the offense was committed out of the State. Photographs of Earle and Powley bear a striking resemblance.

Powley Talkative.

(Special to The Times-Dispatch.)
BOYDTON, VA., January 5.—I visited Powley, the alleged train-robber, here, in his cell this morning. He appeared in much better spirits than on yesterday. I told him I was a newspaper man, and that if he had anything to say for the public I would report it. He said he had nothing to say but that "I am innocent of the charge." He told me that his counsel, Mr. H. M. Smith, of Richmond, would be here Wednesday to conduct the preliminary examination before a justice.